King County	Department of Adult and Juvenile Detention Adult Divisions General Policy Manual	
	Chapter: 4 **Security & Use of Force**	
4.01.026, Hunger Strikes/Forced Feeding	Approved By:	Director Allen Nance
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	Reviewed By:	PRC
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Purpose
To establish clear and concise guidelines regarding the forced feeding of inmates housed in the Department of Adult and Juvenile Detention (the Department) facilities. These guidelines must reflect the Department's mission of providing a safe and secure environment versus the inmate's right to refuse nutrition.

Policy
The department shall work with Jail Health Services (JHS) whenever an inmate is on a hunger strike and shall attempt to resolve any issues that cause an inmate to undertake a hunger strike as long as it does not violate state or local law or the policies and procedures of the department.

References
Department Forms: Officers Report

Definitions
Hunger strike: When an inmate communicates to staff that s/he will stop eating, or when a staff observes that an inmate has not eaten for a period of time in excess of 72 hours.

General Guidelines
1. The health and welfare of the inmate shall be the department's first priority in all cases of hunger strikes or forced feedings.
2. Department staff shall work collaboratively with Jail Health Services (JHS) to monitor the health and welfare of an inmate engaged in a hunger strike and shall ensure that all legal and medical procedures are pursued to preserve the inmate's life.

Procedure
1. As soon as staff learns that an inmate is on a Hunger Strike, they shall notify JHS and report the hunger strike verbally up the Chain of Command, followed by an Officers Report.
2. The Shift Commander will look into the factors that contributed to the inmate's hunger strike; if the hunger strike is due to a jail policy or condition, the Shift Commander will attempt to resolve the issue with the inmate.
3. Any inmate who declares that they are on a hunger strike shall be placed in a housing area determined collaboratively by Classification, JHS and Corrections Staff.

Compelled/Forced Feeding
1. JHS shall be responsible for determining whether the forced feeding of an inmate is necessary and whether the forced feeding must be performed inside a

DAJD correctional facility. The forced feeding of an inmate shall not be performed unless so ordered by a court.

2. Any use of force shall be done in accordance with policy 4.03.014, Use of Force.
3. Any use of force that is solely for the purposes of forced feeding shall be terminated at the request of the attending physician.